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SECRET

7 July 1947

Country: USSR

Subject: 1. Repair of Rostov and Nikolaev Shipyards
2. Use of German PWs for Ship Repair Work and Naval Instruction

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1. Three shipyards in the Rostov/Don area have been repaired and two of them have been working on the repair of German motor torpedo boats since June 1945. By December 1945, eighteen such boats were again in operation. Ten of these boats were sent to Nikolaev, together with a supply of spare parts, in December 1946. The crews were exclusively Russian.
2. German naval personnel, supervised by Soviet engineers, has trained enough Russian sailors in the use of torpedo boats to run about 120 boats. Lately, Russian personnel has trained Russian sailors directly. Therefore, one source estimates the total number trained up to January 1947 as approximately 1,500.
3. At Nikolaev, two shipyards have been repaired. Their work consisted chiefly of repairs made to Soviet Navy vessels. Only skilled workers among the German PWs were employed in the yards.
4. [redacted] in January 1947, the Nikolaev camp, #120/9, held approximately 12,000 PWs. Of the approximately 1,000 PWs detained at Rostov, the majority were German Navy personnel.

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[redacted] (Source: See FO-5052, para 2, for a previous report of the use of Germans as instructors for Soviet special boat units.)

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